

Message Text

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64/46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 SCCT-01

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /083 W

----- 088262

R 120440Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6173

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT BAGHDAD

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

GENEVA FOR SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF

SUBJ: ABDUL-WAHAB KAYALI OF ALF AND PLO COMMENTS ON
DISENGAGEMENT

REF: CAIRO 8806

1. THE COMMENTS OF EGYPTIAN FORMIN FAHMY SUMMARIZED
REFTEL WERE PART OFE OF A TWO-PART ARTICLE ON THE PROS AND
CONS OF THE SINAI ACCORD PUBLISHED IN THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE
BEIRUT WEEKLY "MONDAY MORNING" SEPT 8. THE OTHER PART, EX-
PRESSING THE "CONS", WAS AN INTERVIEW WITH ADBUL-WAHAB KAYALI
OF THE PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ITS MAIN POINTS ARE OUT-
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LINED BELOW. WE ARE POUCHING THE FULL TEXTS OF BOTH PARTS

TO DEPT FOR NEA AND INR.

2. KAYALI'S FIRST OBJECTION TO THE SINAI ACCORD WAS "ONE OF PRINCIPLE." HE OBJECTED TO THE IDEA OF A POLITICAL AGREEMENT WITH "THE ZIONIST SETTLER-STATE OF ISREL AT THIS PARTICULAR STAGE OF ARAB HISTORY." HE CALLED ISREL AN "ALIEN" STATE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ARAB WORLD. THE SINAI ACCORD FREEZES "ARAB CONFRONTATION AGAINST THIS FOREIGN BODY POLITIC."

3. HIS SECOND OBJECTION WAS ON OF TIMING. THE ACCORD CAME WHILE THE ARABS WERE "ON THE ASCENDANCEY." HE BELIEVED THE US AND ISRAEL WERE MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO STOP THIS ARAB "THRUST FORWARD."

4. CONCERNING THE AGREEMENT ITSELF, HE CONSIDERED IT POLITICAL, NOT JUST A MILITARY "DISENGAGEMENT". HE SAID EGYPT SIGNED IT BECAUSE OF, FIRST, "THE LIMITED, BOURGEOUS MENTALITY OF SOME OF PRES SADAT'S CLOSE COLLABORATORS AND ADVISERS" AND/ SECONDLY, "THE FEELING AMONG MANY EGYPTIANS THAT THEY HAVE BORNE A GOOD DEAL...AS A RESULT OF THEIR NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO THE ARAB AND PALESTINIAN CAUSE.

5. KAYALI WAS DISTRUSTFUL OF SYRIA'S ATTITUDE BUT NOT SPECIFIC IN HIS COMMENTS ON THIS POINT.

6. HE THOUGHT THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINE PROBLEM, WHICH HE CALLED "THE CARDINAL ISSUE OF THE MIDDLE EAST," WOULD BE THROUGH A "RELENTLESS PAN-ARAB STRUGGLE. THEE PALESTINE CAUSE IS ONE OF "NATIONAL LIBERATION" AN IRAQI-SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN UNITY COMMITTED TO CONFRONTATION SHOULD BE THE FIRST STAGE IN THE STRUGGLE.

7. COMMENT: WE FIND MONDAY MORNING'S CHOICE OF KAYYALI AS A POKESMAN ON THE PLO SIDE PUZZLING. HE IS OFFICIALLY AMEMBER OF THE PLO EX COMM BUT IS THE REP OF THE ARAB LIBERATION FRONT (ALF) WHICH IS DIRECTED FROM BAGHDAD AND COUNTS ITSELF IN THE "REJECTION FRONT". WHILE THE ALF HAS NOT RPT NOT FOLLOWED THE PFLP AND, MORE RECENTLY, THE PFLP-GC IN WITHDRAWING FROM THE EX COMM, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT KAYYALI HAS AS MAT-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TER OF PARACTICE, ABSENTED HIMSELF FROM EXCOMM MEETINGS. HIS BIAS IS CLEARLY SHOWN IN THE REMARKS REGARDING DISTRUST OF SYRIA (PARA 5) AND THE NECESSITY FOR IRAQI-SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN UNITY (PARA 6). WHILE WE BELIEVE MANY IN THE PLO MAINSTREAM HARBOR ANXIETY ABOUT POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS OF SYRIAN POLICY, PARTICULARLY IN WAKE OF SYRIAN-JORDANIAN RAPPROCHMENT, THEY WOULD NEVER SAY SO PUBLICLY. IT IS POSSIBLE, THOUGH WE CANNOT CONFIRM THEORY, THAT MON-

DAY MORNING WAS UNABLE FIND "MODERATE" SPOKESMAN WHO
WAS WILLING PLACE HIMSELF IN DIRECT CONFRONTATION FRAMEWAORK
WITH FAHMY (I.E., SADAT).
GODLEY

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